1. (Currently amended) A method ~~for establishing a~~ of peer-to-peer review ~~relationship~~ between [[a]] first and [[a]] second network-enabled appliances, the first and ~~the~~ second network-enabled appliances being connected to an interconnected network, the method comprising:

determining the address of the second network-enabled appliance ~~with~~ using the first network-enabled appliance, the address of the second network-enabled appliance being associated with the interconnected network;

sending a ping message to the second network-enabled appliance from the first network-enabled appliance through the interconnected network;

selectively responding to the ping message from the first network-enabled appliance ~~with~~ using the second network-enabled appliance;

~~selectively~~ establishing a periodicity between the sending of subsequent periodic ping messages based on information provided to the first network-enabled appliance by the second network-enabled appliance; and

~~periodically selectively~~ sending subsequent ~~periodic~~ ping messages from the first network-enabled appliance to the second network-enabled appliance through the interconnected network at time intervals based on the established periodicity. ~~and where the time interval between the subsequent periodic ping messages is associated with the established periodicity.~~

2. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~Claim~~ 1 wherein the ping message uses an HTTP POST method.

3. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~Claim~~ 1 wherein the ping message uses an FTP method.

4. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~Claim~~ 1, the method further comprising: selectively sending a notification message in the event that an expected periodic ping is not received.

5. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~Claim~~ 4 wherein the notification method is sent to a remote location.

6. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~Claim~~ 4 wherein the notification method is sent to another network-enabled appliance connected to the interconnected network.

7. (Currently amended) A network-enabled appliance ~~operable to establish~~ configured to be used in a peer-to-peer review relationship, the network-enabled appliance comprising:

a processor;

a network interface communicatively coupled to the processor, the network interface connected to an interconnected network; and

a storage medium communicatively coupled to the processor, the storage medium ~~operable to store instruction sets; and~~ containing an instruction set ~~for establishing~~ used in a peer-to-peer review relationship with one or more other network-enabled appliances, the instruction set being configured to cause the processor to:

determine the addresses of the one or more other network-enabled appliances, the addresses of the one or more other network-enabled appliances being associated with the interconnected network;

send a ping message to the one or more other network-enabled appliances through the interconnected network;

establish a periodicity between the sending of subsequent periodic ping messages based on information provided by the one or more other network-enabled appliances; and

send subsequent periodic ping messages to the one or more other network-enabled appliances through the interconnected network at time intervals based on the established periodicity.

8. (Currently amended) The network-enabled appliance of claim ~~Claim~~ 7 wherein

the processor is a Java-based processor.

9. (Currently amended) The network-enabled appliance of claim ~~Claim~~ 7, the network-enabled appliance further comprising: a means for communicating with a remote system.

10. (Currently amended) The network-enabled appliance of claim ~~Claim~~ 7, the network-enabled appliance further comprising: at least one sensor communicatively coupled to the processor.

11. (Currently amended) The network-enabled appliance of claim ~~Claim~~ 10 wherein the storage medium further contains~~, the network-enabled appliance further comprising:~~ at least one threshold, the at least one threshold associated with values measured by the at least one sensor.

12. (Currently amended) The network-enabled appliance of claim ~~Claim~~ 11 wherein the storage medium further contains~~, the network-enabled appliance further comprising:~~ an instruction set being configured to cause the processor to ~~for~~ send~~ing~~ a notification in response to the at least one threshold being met by the values measured by the at least one sensor.

13. (Currently amended) A cluster of network-enabled appliances comprising: ~~cluster of two or more network-enabled appliances, the cluster comprising:~~

a plurality of network-enabled appliances being grouped according to a characteristic, ~~the two or more network-enabled appliances,~~ each of the plurality of network-enabled appliances being connected to an interconnected network, at least one of the ~~two or more~~ plurality of network-enabled appliances within the cluster being operable to communicate with a remote system,~~; and~~

wherein each of the ~~two or more~~ plurality of network-enabled appliances operable to establish one or more peer-to-peer review relationships with one or more other network-enabled appliances within the cluster,[[;]]

wherein the plurality of network-enabled appliances being operable to act as a logical system.

14. (Currently amended) The cluster of claim ~~Claim~~ 13 wherein the at least one of the ~~two or more~~ plurality of network-enabled appliances within the cluster is operable to communicate with the remote system using an HTTP POST method.

15. (Currently amended) The cluster of claim ~~Claim~~ 13 wherein the at least one of ~~two or more~~ plurality of network-enabled appliances within the cluster is operable to communicate with the remote system using an FTP method.

16. (Currently amended) The cluster of claim ~~Claim~~ 13 wherein the at least one of the ~~two or more~~ plurality of the network-enabled appliances within the cluster operable to communicate with the remote system acts as an intermediary between the remote system and the other network-enabled appliances within the cluster.

17. (Currently amended) The cluster of claim ~~Claim~~ 16 wherein a second of the ~~two or more~~ plurality of network-enabled appliances within the cluster is operable to communicate with the remote system and establishes a peer-to-peer review relationship with the at least one of the ~~two or more~~ plurality of the network-enabled appliances within the cluster operable to communicate with the remote system and acting as the intermediary.

18. (Currently amended) The cluster of claim ~~Claim~~ 17 wherein the second of the ~~two or more~~ plurality of the network-enabled appliances within the cluster operable to communicate with the remote system selectively assumes a network address of the first of the ~~two or more~~ plurality of the network-enabled appliances within the cluster operable to communicate with the remote system acting as the intermediary in the event that the first of the ~~two or more~~ plurality of the network-enabled appliances within the cluster operable to communicate with the remote system fails.

19. (Currently amended) A network-enabled appliance ~~operable to establish~~ configured to be used in a peer-to-peer review relationship, the network-enabled appliance comprising:

a processor;

a network interface communicatively coupled to the processor, the network interface connected to an interconnected network;

at least one sensor communicatively coupled to the processor;

at least one stored threshold value, the at least one stored threshold value associated with values measured by the at least one sensor; and

a storage medium communicatively coupled to the processor, the storage medium ~~operable to store~~ containing:

an instruction ~~sets; an instruction~~ set configured to cause the processor to ~~for~~ establish~~ing~~ a peer-to-peer review relationship with one or more other network-enabled appliances;

an instruction set configured to cause the processor to communicate ~~for communicating~~ with a remote system; and

an instruction set configured to cause the processor to send a notification in response to the at least one stored threshold value being met by the values measured by the at least one sensor.

~~at least one sensor communicatively coupled to the processor;~~

~~at least one stored threshold value, the at least one stored threshold value associated with values measured by the at least one sensor; and~~

~~an instruction set for sending a notification in response to the at least one stored threshold value being met by the values measured by the at least one sensor.~~

20. (Currently amended) A computer program product used to establish a peer to peer relationship between first and second network enabled appliances, the computer program product residing on a computer readable medium and comprising computer-readable instructions for causing a computer to: ~~A program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to~~

~~perform methods steps for establishing a peer-to-peer relationship between a first and a second network-enabled appliance, the method steps comprising:~~

determine ~~determining~~ the address of the second network-enabled appliance ~~with~~ using the first network enabled appliance, the address of the second network-enabled appliance being associated with the interconnected network;

send ~~sending~~ a ping message to the second network-enabled appliance from the first network-enabled appliance through the interconnected network;

selectively respond~~ing~~ to the ping message from the first network-enabled appliance ~~with~~ using the second network-enabled appliance;

~~selectively~~ establish~~ing~~ a periodicity between the sending of subsequent periodic ping messages based on information provided to the first network-enabled appliance by the second network-enabled appliance; and

~~periodically selectively~~ send~~ing~~ subsequent ~~periodic~~ ping messages from the first network-enabled appliance to the second network-enabled appliance through the interconnected network at time intervals based on the established periodicity. ~~where a time interval between the subsequent periodic ping messages is associated with the established periodicity.~~

21. (Currently amended) A method for utilizing a resource associated with a network appliance, the resource being cataloged in a directory, the method comprising:

querying the directory to determine an address location of the network appliance associated with the resource;

sending a command~~ing~~ to the network appliance associated with the resource to perform a function associated with the resource; and

~~the network appliance~~ performing the function associated with the resource.

22. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~Claim~~ 21 wherein ~~the steps of~~ querying the directory and ~~commanding~~ sending a command are performed by a network appliance.

23. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~Claim~~ 21 wherein the directory is

associated with a server.

24. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~Claim~~ 21 wherein the directory is associated with a directory network appliance.

25. (Currently amended) An apparatus comprising:

an interface;

a memory coupled to the interface and including information ~~A directory for~~ cataloging resources available to a cluster of ~~one or more~~ network appliances, the ~~directory~~ information being accessible by the cluster, the information including data associated with each of the plurality of network appliances and data associated with a plurality of resources associated with each of the plurality of network appliances, the memory being operable to receive and respond to queries from the plurality of network appliances requesting the information stored in the memory. ~~one or more network appliances, the directory comprising:~~

~~at least one record stored in the memory, the at least one record storing data associated with a network appliance and data associated with a resource associated with the network appliance, the directory operable to receive and respond to queries from the one or more network appliances, the queries requesting the data stored in the at least one record.~~

26. (Currently amended) The ~~directory~~ apparatus of claim ~~Claim~~ 25 wherein the information ~~directory~~ is associated with a server.

27. (Currently amended) The ~~directory~~ apparatus of claim ~~Claim~~ 25 wherein the information ~~directory~~ is associated with a network appliance.

28. (Currently amended) The ~~directory~~ apparatus of claim ~~Claim~~ 25[[,]] wherein the information ~~directory~~ further ~~comprising:~~ comprises at least one shared data object associated with one or more of the one or more network appliances.

29. (Currently amended) The ~~directory~~ apparatus of claim ~~Claim~~ 25[[,]] wherein the information ~~directory~~ further ~~comprising:~~ comprises at least one shared configuration object associated with one or more of the one or more network appliances.

30. (Currently amended) The ~~directory~~ apparatus of claim ~~Claim~~ 25[[,]] wherein the information ~~directory~~ further ~~comprising:~~ comprises at least one email notification list, the email notification list comprising one or more email addresses.

31. (Currently amended) The ~~directory~~ apparatus of claim ~~Claim~~ 25[[,]] wherein the information ~~directory~~ further ~~comprising:~~ comprises at least one SNMP trap notification list.

32. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein selectively responding to the ping message includes responding as a function of capabilities of the second network-enabled appliance.

33. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein selectively responding to the ping message includes responding as a function of the number of active peer-to-peer review relationships that the second network-enabled appliance is engaged in.

34. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein selectively responding to the ping message includes responding as a function of available network resources.

35. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein establishing a periodicity between the sending of subsequent periodic ping messages includes establishing a periodicity based on the number of active peer-to-peer review relationships that the first network-enabled appliance is engaged in.

36. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein establishing a periodicity between the sending of subsequent periodic ping messages includes establishing a periodicity based

on the number of active peer-to-peer review relationships that the second network-enabled appliance is engaged in.

37. (New) The cluster of network-enabled appliances of claim 13 wherein the characteristic is selected from the group consisting of location, responsible user, purpose, network region, and responsible party.